

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-42, 44, 45, 50, 61, 62, 65, 66, 71, 82 and 83 were previously canceled. Claim 85 has been newly added.

Claim Rejections

Independent claims 43, 52, 57, 64, 73, and 78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Reed et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,004,205), in view of Brunson et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,018,762) and Frietas et al. (U.S. 2002/0049858). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

One of the basic requirements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness is that the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations.

MPEP §2143.

Claim 43 recites:

43. A method for operating an electronic mail server system having mailboxes associated with wireless client devices, the method comprising:
 receiving input to change an organizational structure of a mailbox;
 making a change to the organizational structure of the mailbox in response to the input; and
 pushing a message to a wireless client device associated with the mailbox, the message comprising information about the change to the mailbox, wherein the information is used by the wireless client device to synchronize a cached version of the mailbox stored locally in the wireless client device with the mailbox prior to notifying a user of the change to the mailbox.
(Emphasis added).

By contrast, Reed, Brunson and Frietas, individually or in combination, do not teach the above emphasized claim limitations. Reed discloses an automated communications system operating to transfer data, metadata and methods from a provider computer to a consumer computer through a communication network. Information which changes in the provider

computer is automatically updated in the consumer computer through the communications system.

Reed does not teach or suggest receiving input to change organizational structure of a mailbox. As far as Reed discloses, changes of a database to be sent to a consumer computer from a provider computer are limited to changes of data entries of the database, not organizational structure changes of the database (*see* Reed's column 5, lines 5-19). An organization structure of a database refers to, for example, names and attributes of the tables of the database and the relationships among the tables, not the entries stored in the tables. Entries can be added into or deleted from the database, but the names and attributes of the tables and the relationships among the tables will not be affected. Thus, Reed does not even teach or suggest changing organizational structure of a database.

Reed further does not teach or suggest pushing a message to a wireless client device associated with the mailbox, the message comprising information about the change to the mailbox, wherein the information is used by the wireless client device to synchronize a cached version of the mailbox stored locally in the wireless client device with the mailbox prior to notifying a user of the change to the mailbox. The Examiner alleges that Reed teaches or suggests pushing a message to a wireless client device associated with the database, the message comprising information about the organizational change to the database, wherein the information is used by the wireless client device to synchronize a cached version of the database stored locally in the wireless client device with the database prior to notifying a user of the change to the database (office action mailed on 7/18/2006, page 3). However, as disclosed in Reed, information being sent from a provider computer to consumer computers is changes of data entries stored in a provider database, not changes of the organizational structure of the provider

database, much less changes of an organizational structure of a mailbox (*see* Reed's column 5, lines 5-19 and column 9, lines 38-41). Thus, Reed also does not teach or suggest pushing a message to a wireless client device associated with the mailbox, the message comprising information about the change to the mailbox, wherein the information is used by the wireless client device to synchronize a cached version of the mailbox stored locally in the wireless client device with the mailbox prior to notifying a user of the change to the mailbox.

Brunson also does not teach or suggest the above discussed claim limitations. Brunson discloses "a way of synchronizing the contents of commonly-owned mailboxes in disparate messaging systems" (Brunson's Abstract). As disclosed in column 6, lines 1-20, it is the changes of the messages stored in a mailbox that are synchronized, not the organizational structure changes of the mailbox that are synchronized, such as recited in claim 43. Thus, Brunson also does not teach or suggest the above emphasized limitations of claim 43.

Frietas also does not teach or suggest the above emphasized limitations. Neither does the Examiner contend so.

Thus, at least for the foregoing reasons, claim 43 is not obvious based on Reed in view of Brunson and Frietas. Independent claim 64 recites limitations similar to those discussed above for claim 43. Accordingly, claim 64 and all claims which depend on it are also patentable over Reed, Brunson and Frietas for similar reasons.

Independent claim 52 recites:

52. A method for operating a wireless client device, the method comprising:
 receiving a pushed message;
 determining whether the message is a mail notification; and
 if the message is a mail notification, then
 decoding the message to obtain message access protocol parameters;

connecting to a mail server and synchronizing a cached mailbox stored locally in the wireless client device with an associated mailbox stored in the mail server, wherein the synchronizing comprises using the message access protocol parameters to determine a change made to an organizational structure of the associated mailbox, wherein the connecting and synchronizing are performed prior to notifying a user of the change; and
notifying the user of the wireless client device of the change.
(Emphasis added).

In contrast, Reed, Brunson and Frietas, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above emphasized limitations of claim 52, namely, receiving a pushed message, decoding the message to obtain message access protocol parameters, and connecting to a mail server and synchronizing a cached mailbox stored locally in the wireless client device with an associated mailbox stored in the mail server, the synchronizing including using the message access protocol parameters to determine a change made to an organizational structure of the associated mailbox. Claim 52 essentially recites the invention of claim 43 from the client side's perspective. Claim 52, however, includes the essential limitations of the invention as discussed above for claim 43. At least for the reasons discussed above for claim 43, claim 52 is also patentable over the cited references.

Independent claims 57, 73 and 78 each recites limitations similar to those discussed above for claim 52. For similar reasons, claims 57, 73, 78 and all claims which depend on them are also patentable over the cited references.

Dependent Claims

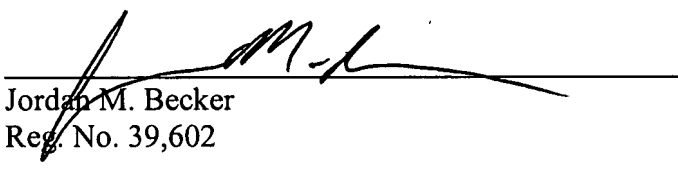
In view of the above remarks, a specific discussion of the dependent claims is considered to be unnecessary. Therefore, Applicants' silence regarding any dependent claim is not to be interpreted as agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejection of such claim or as waiving any argument regarding that claim.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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